

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2182

To establish a program to provide child care through public-private partnerships.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 8, 2012

Mr. BEGICH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish a program to provide child care through public-private partnerships.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Child Care Public-Pri-
5 vate Partnership Act of 2012”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF BUSINESS INCENTIVE GRANT**
7 **PROGRAM.**

8 The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
9 establish a program to make grants to—

1 (1) States, on a competitive basis, to enable eli-
 2 gible businesses and consortia in the States to carry
 3 out the activities described in section 4; and

4 (2) nonprofit business organizations with exper-
 5 tise in management issues concerning operating a
 6 high-quality child care center, to provide technical
 7 information and assistance to enable businesses to
 8 provide child care services.

9 **SEC. 3. APPLICATIONS FROM STATES AND NONPROFIT**
 10 **BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant
 12 under section 2, a State or nonprofit business organization
 13 shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time,
 14 in such form, and containing such information as the Sec-
 15 retary may require.

16 (b) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, an application sub-
 17 mitted under subsection (a) by a nonprofit business orga-
 18 nization shall contain—

19 (1) an assurance that, with respect to the costs
 20 to be incurred by the applicant in carrying out the
 21 purposes for which the grant is made, the applicant
 22 will make available State or other non-Federal early
 23 childhood contributions (such as contributions for
 24 child care, Head Start, State prekindergarten, and
 25 early intervention programs), in an amount equal to

1 not less than \$1 for every \$1 of Federal funds pro-
2 vided under the grant;

3 (2) an assurance that such applicant will ex-
4 pend the grant funds for the use specified in section
5 2(2);

6 (3) an assurance that such applicant will em-
7 ploy strategies to ensure that child care services,
8 provided with the technical information and assist-
9 ance made available by such applicant, are provided
10 at affordable costs, and on an equitable basis, to
11 low- and moderate-income employees;

12 (4) an assurance that such applicant will em-
13 ploy procedures to ensure that technical information
14 and assistance provided under this Act by such ap-
15 plicant will be provided only to businesses that pro-
16 vide child care services in compliance with all State
17 and local licensing and regulatory requirements ap-
18 plicable to child care providers in such State; and

19 (5) an assurance that such applicant will em-
20 ploy procedures to ensure such information and as-
21 sistance will be provided only to businesses located
22 in an area without an adequate supply of licensed
23 and regulated (as applicable) child care providers.

1 (c) PRIORITY.—For purposes of selecting applicants
 2 to receive grants under section 2, to the extent practicable,
 3 the Secretary shall—

4 (1) make grants equitably under section 2 to
 5 applicants located in all geographical regions of the
 6 United States; and

7 (2) give priority to applicants for grants under
 8 section 2(1).

9 **SEC. 4. GRANTS TO BUSINESSES AND CONSORTIA.**

10 A State that receives a grant under section 2 shall
 11 use the grant funds to make grants, on a competitive
 12 basis, to eligible businesses or consortia in the State in
 13 order to enable the businesses and consortia—

14 (1) to pay start-up costs incurred to provide
 15 child care services;

16 (2) to provide for assistance for the costs of
 17 child care services needed by the employees of such
 18 businesses and consortia; and

19 (3) to pay for training and professional develop-
 20 ment for staff that provide child care services.

21 **SEC. 5. APPLICATIONS FROM BUSINESSES AND CON-**
 22 **SORTIA.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant
 24 under section 4, a business or consortium shall submit an

1 application to the State at such time, in such form, and
2 containing such information as the State may require.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, such application
4 shall contain—

5 (1) an assurance that, with respect to the costs
6 to be incurred by the applicant in carrying out the
7 purposes for which the grant is made, the applicant
8 will make available State or other non-Federal early
9 childhood contributions (such as contributions for
10 child care, Head Start, State prekindergarten, and
11 early intervention programs), in an amount equal to
12 not less than \$1 for every \$1 of Federal funds pro-
13 vided under the grant;

14 (2) an assurance that such applicant will ex-
15 pend the grant funds for the use specified in section
16 2(1);

17 (3) an assurance that such applicant will em-
18 ploy strategies to ensure that child care services,
19 provided by such applicant, are provided at afford-
20 able costs, and on an equitable basis, to low- and
21 moderate-income employees;

22 (4) an assurance that such applicant will com-
23 ply with all State and local child care licensing and
24 regulatory requirements that are applicable to the
25 applicant; and

1 (5) information demonstrating that the appli-
 2 cant is located in an area without an adequate sup-
 3 ply of licensed and regulated (as applicable) child
 4 care providers.

5 (c) PRIORITY.—For purposes of selecting applicants
 6 to receive grants under section 4, the State shall give pri-
 7 ority to businesses that have fewer than 100 full-time em-
 8 ployees.

9 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

10 As used in this Act:

11 (1) BUSINESS.—The term “business” means a
 12 person engaged in commerce whose primary activity
 13 is an activity other than the provision of child care
 14 services.

15 (2) CHILD CARE SERVICES.—The term “child
 16 care services” means care for a child that is—

17 (A) provided on the site at which a parent
 18 of such child is employed or at a site nearby in
 19 the community in which the site is located; and

20 (B) subsidized at least in part by the busi-
 21 ness that employs such parent.

22 (3) CONSORTIUM.—The term “consortium”
 23 means a partnership—

24 (A) that shall include 2 or more busi-
 25 nesses, acting jointly; and

1 (B) shall include a nonprofit private orga-
2 nization with expertise in the provision of high-
3 quality child care services.

4 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
5 the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

6 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
8 this Act \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2013 through
9 2015.

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